THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB, INC.

The World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Club

AFFILIATED WITH
THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

CHARTERED AS
A NON-STOCK CORPORATION BY THE
STATE OF WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

May 27, 1983

To the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554
Re: PR Docket No. 83-28
No Code Technician and/or Experimenter License Class

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, Inc. (MRAC), overwhelmingly concluded at our Regular Meeting on March 10, 1983, that our Club opposes the current proposal to remove the administering of the International Morse Code test the examinations for the Technician Class License and to the enactment of a new Experimenter Class License not requiring a knowledge of code.

Mr. Christopher Welton, WD9GZL, a member of the Board of Directors of MRAC, was appointed to evaluate our opposition and from his outline the detailed material on the following page was prepared.

Respectfully submitted to the FCC by the,
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB INC

H. Charles Kaetel

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12 copies to FCC

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Re: PR Docket No. 83-28

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, Inc., (MRAC) is the oldest continuously active amateur radio club in the entire world, finishing sixty-five years of service this summer. The Club is also the oldest affiliate of the ARRL. We believe it is the largest amateur radio club in Wisconsin and has many ARRL members, but membership in the League is not a requirement for joining.

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club at our Regular Meeting on March 10, 1983, voted overwhelmingly to oppose the enactment of a no-code license in the United States. Reasons cited for opposition no-code amateur licenses are: presently licensed amateurs had to learn the code for their examinations and the effort to learn code in in addition to the examinations in radio theory and regulation shows a bonafide interest in amateur radio, and the International Morse Code is a universally accepted medium of radio communication. In addition, code requires the simplest of radio transmitters and receivers and conserves bandspace in the crowded high-frequency bands.

There are also problems in keeping the VHF bands and repeaters free of hams and unlicensed operators who abuse the privileges of amateur radio. An increase in the number of VHF band operators as a result of a no-code amateur license, the MRAC believes, will result in a disproportionate increase in the number of amateurs with no bonfide interest in amateur radio as compred to the present increase in the amateur population through the present licensing system.

In conclusion, the MRAC opposes the No-Code proposal. The Club feels that those who persevered and learned the code have a greater, more sincere, interest in amateur radio and the principles thereof, than people who do not take the time to learn the code and the reasons for its application. The code is the building block of amateur radio and remains as an important means of communication today.

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